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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT

1. German Workers in Russia
2. Salaries and Prices in Kuibyshev area

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ORIGIN

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. Rostov/Don: A German PW, who had been employed as a "free worker" in Rostov, states that only repair work is being done on damaged ships in the two rebuilt shipyards. These yards employ approximately 5,000 Germans, who are housed in barracks and are permitted limited freedom of movement. Money is issued to them at irregular intervals. It is forbidden to take this money back to Germany. Comment: A previous report via the same source but from an apparently different PW sub-source stated that German PWs were being used for repair work in the reconstructed Rostov Shipyards.)
2. Kharkov: Source of Paragraph 1, on his return, visited former OSW employees in this city. Brought to Kharkov for work in a cable factory, they have little to do. Few machines exist, but the Russians have stated that additional machinery is to be delivered from Germany. The OSW people, all forced deportees, are restricted in their movements. The women are allowed to move freely about the city, but the men are under military guard during working hours.

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3. Moscow: [REDACTED] 1947, contains the following remarks:

"We are situated in the woods, five minutes from the street car, which I take to Moscow every day. This takes about an hour during rush hours... There are no contracts; salaries are already set at 1500 to 1700 rubles. As /at home/ buying power is only one-tenth and on the free market, where anything can be had, prices are beyond our reach. We may send up to half our salaries back to Germany. The rate is two marks for one ruble... I still cannot imagine what I am supposed to do here. Nothing was prepared, and only a little work is done. Besides this, construction work, which had to be done first, is not yet finished... It is neither proposed nor possible to take on and house more workers here..."

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Kuibyshev: [REDACTED] Kuibyshev noted the arrival of the first transport from the Askania-Werke AG, Berlin-Friedrichshagen. Among personalities who had arrived was Moller, specialist on aircraft steering devices, said to have been arrested in Klein Machnew by the Russians.

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Kuibyshev: [REDACTED] three BMW engineers now in Kuibyshev confirms the location of BMW personnel in the nearby Rote Erde Section. [REDACTED]

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Comment: [REDACTED] The Germans, consisting of approximately 300 fuselage workers, are confined to this area because the road from the

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Rote Arde section to the city runs through a forest inhabited by partisan bandits. Some of the partisans are alleged to be demobilized soldiers. Salaries in rubles are: specialists, 1500-1800; engineers, 1000-1200; mechanics, 600-700. Food cards worth 500 rubles are issued to workmen; women receive similar cards for 170 rubles; there are no food cards for children. Black (open) market prices in the Kuibyshev area are as follows (per one kilogram):

Pork	100 rubles	Coffee substitute	20 rubles
Fats	200 "	Chocolate	180 "
Butter	200 "	Honey	200 "
Real coffee	100 "	Fish	28 "

6. Sestroretsk: Seventy former employees of the Eckernförde (Q45) torpedo testing station have been sent to Sestroretsk, near Leningrad, and later will be shifted to Cranienbaum. These men were contracted for the Russians at Karlshorst by engineers Lawitschka, Myslivecek, and von Leewis. H. Bergner, now residing with a Frau Hoffmann at Riastrasse 13 in Karlshorst, is acting as liaison officer "between Leningrad and German industry". Bergner, a torpedo tube expert, later will go to Leningrad. Section chiefs now in Sestroretsk are reported to be receiving salaries ranging from 5,000 to 6,000 rubles. (Sestroretsk: 60°08'N, 30°03')

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Comment: A reliable source reported, 2-5 January 1947, that Dr. Lawitschka was already in Russia, while Myslivecek was recruiting German technicians in all the zones of Germany for the Soviet naval research unit at Junkerjörgstrasse 9 in Karlshorst. This report also stated that the Sestroretsk unit would be transferred to Cranienbaum in the spring of 1947. Both Lawitschka and Myslivecek were formerly employed by the Brunner Maschinenfabrik at Eckernförde as boiler and turbine specialists.

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